

Message Text

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PAGE 01 AMMAN 07265 071307Z

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 CPR-01 SCA-01 SCS-03 PPT-01
CU-02 OC-06 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 SP-02
CCO-00 IO-13 /062 W

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R 071122Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9838

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CGEN

SUBJECT: JORDAN RIVER BRIDGE CROSSINGS.

REF: (A) TAIPEI 7089, (B) TEL AVIV 1981

1 THIS MESSAGE DEFINES THE CATEGORIES OF PERSONS WHO WISH TO CROSS THE KING HUSSEIN (ALLENBY) BRIDGE TO THE WEST BANK AND THE VARIOUS PROCEDURES THAT ARE TO BE FOLLOWED FOR EACH CATEGORY TO CROSS THE BRIDGE ARE DESCRIBED.

2. OFFICIALS - ALL PERSONS TRAVELLING ON OFFICIAL OR DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS ARE INCLUDED IN THIS CATEGORY. UPON BEING NOTIFIED OF AN OFFICIAL TRAVELER, EMBASSY AMMAN SENDS A DIPLOMATIC NOTE TO THE PROTOCOL OFFICE OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY REQUESTING PERMISSION FOR THE INTERESTED PERSON(S) TO CROSS THE BRIDGE. THE FOREIGN MINISTRY THEN FORWARDS THE REQUEST TO THE HEAD OF LIAISON TRAINING AND ADMINISTRATION BRANCH OF THE JORDAN ARMED FORCES WHICH CABLES OR WRITES THE BRIDGE UNIT WITH

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PAGE 02 AMMAN 07265 071307Z

THE REQUIRED INFORMATION FOR THE CROSSING. THE FOREIGN

MINISTRY REQUIRES TEN REPEAT TEN WORKING DAYS
NOTIFICATION TO ARRANGE SUCH A BRIDGE CROSSING (NOTE:
THIS PROCEDURE IS USED AS WELL FOR RELATIVES OF OFFICIALS
TRAVELLING WITH THEM, EVEN THOUGH THE RELATIVE MAY NOT
HAVE OFFICIAL OR DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS).

3. IN ORDER TO EXPEDITE EMBASSY'S PROCESSING OF BRIDGE
CROSSING REQUESTS, ALL POSTS ARE REQUESTED TO PROVIDE
THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IN INITIAL CABLES: FULL NAME (NO
INITIALS), DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH, DATE AND PLACE WHERE
PASSPORT WAS ISSUED AND INDICATION WHICH PASSPORT TO BE
USED FOR TRAVEL IN ARAB COUNTRIES, TYPE OF PASSPORT
(DIPLOMATIC OR OFFICIAL), NUMBER OF PASSPORT, CURRENT
ASSIGNMENT, DATE AND HOUR OF CROSSING IN EACH DIRECTION,
ANY REQUESTS FOR TRANSPORTATION AND HOTEL RESERVATIONS
SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN CABLE.

4. TOURISTS - TOURISTS ARE PERSONS TRAVELLING ON REGULAR
PASSPORTS. TOURISTS MAY OBTAIN A BRIDGE CROSSING PER-
MIT THROUGH A TRAVEL AGENCY IN AMMAN AFTER THEIR
ARRIVAL IN JORDAN. THEY MAY ALSO GO PERSONALLY TO THE
MINISTRY OF INTERIOR IN AMMAN FOR A BRIDGE CROSSING
PERMIT. TOURISTS MUST REMAIN IN AMMAN 48 HOURS BEFORE
OBTAINING THE PERMIT. TOURISTS ORIGINATING TRAVEL IN
JORDAN MAY TRAVEL FROM EAST BANK TO WEST BANK ONE WAY
OR ROUND TRIP. (TOURISTS ORIGINATING TRAVEL FROM
ISRAEL OR THE WEST BANK MAY EXIT THROUGH JORDAN BUT
NOT ROUND TRIP TO ISRAEL OR WEST BANK.) THE BRIDGE
IS OPEN FROM 0800 HOURS UNTIL 1400 HOURS AND IS
CLOSED EVERY SATURDAY AND ON IMPORTANT ISRAELI AND
JORDANIAN HOLIDAYS.

IN ADDITION THOSE WITH TOURIST PASSPORTS MAY HAVE
THE FOLLOWING SPECIAL CLASSIFICATION AND PROCEDURES:

A. RESIDENT NON JORDANIAN (PRIVATE AMERICAN
CITIZENS) ALSO INCLUDES PERSONS BORN IN ARAB COUNTRIES
WHO ARE NOW AMERICAN CITIZENS. INDIVIDUALS IN THIS
CATEGORY MUST GET THEIR BRIDGE CROSSING PERMISSION
FROM THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR.

B. JOURNALISTS MUST OBTAIN THEIR PERMITS AT THE
PRESS CENTER WHICH IS A PART OF THE MINISTRY OF
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PAGE 03 AMMAN 07265 071307Z

INFORMATION. THE PRESS CENTER IS LOCATED IN THE
INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL IN AMMAN.
C. STUDENTS ARE DEFINED AS PERSONS CROSSING THE
BRIDGE SOLELY FOR ACADEMIC PURPOSES. THEY MUST OBTAIN
PERMISSION TO CROSS FROM THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND
INFORMATION. IF THEY ARE TO BE ENGAGED IN ARCHAEOLOGICAL
STUDIES THEY MUST ALSO HAVE THE APPROVAL OF THE MINSTRY
OF ANTIQUITIES.

5. CURRENT PRACTICE IS FOR ISRAELI AUTHORITIES NOT
RPT NOT TO PLACE ENTRY/DEPARTURE STAMPS IN UNITED STATES
PASSPORTS IF REQUESTED BY THE TRAVELER. HOWEVER,
DIPLOMATIC AND OFFICIAL PASSPORT HOLDERS OBTAIN A
SECOND PASSPORT, VALID FOR TRAVEL IN ISRAEL ONLY.
IF PASSPORTS ARE STAMPED BY THE ISRAELIS IT MUST BE
CANCELLED OR LIMITED TO ISRAEL ONLY AND A NEW PASSPORT
ISSUED. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT TRAVELERS PLANNING TO
ENTER JORDAN FROM THE WEST BANK GET JORDANIAN VISAS
BEFORE ENTERING ISRAEL.

6. CABLES REQUESTING BRIDGE CROSSING SHOULD BE
CLASSIFIED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.

7. REQUEST DEPARTMENT PASS TO OTHER POSTS AS REQUIRED.
SUDDARTH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 DEC 1976
Decapton Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976AMMAN07265
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760451-1000
From: AMMAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761264/aaaaccxr.tel
Line Count: 132
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 TAIPEI 7089, 76 TEL AVIV 1981
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 MAY 2004 by buchant0>; APPROVED <17 AUG 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JORDAN RIVER BRIDGE CROSSINGS.
TAGS: CGEN
To: STATE ATHENS
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006